

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE**

**186 Exchange Street
Buffalo, New York**

312946



**SWEET KLEEN LAUNDRY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK**

UPDATE FACT SHEET

February 2006

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2 will resume cleanup work at the former Sweet Kleen Laundry at 760 Kensington Avenue, Buffalo, NY during the week of February 20, 2006.

EPA completed phase 1 of the cleanup in 2005 which saw the demolition of a 100 foot chimney, and the removal of on-site buildings, asbestos, and 50 drums of waste products and electrical transformers to a variety of off-site disposal facilities.

The current cleanup work will address the removal of perchloroethylene contaminated soils that appear to be limited to a small section of the site. Perchloroethylene is a common dry cleaning solvent used by former dry cleaners. Testing by EPA does not indicate any impact to residences surrounding the site.

The cleanup will last approximately three weeks. During the cleanup, EPA will undertake a soil removal of the contaminated soil and removal of some of the concrete slabs on-site. Air monitoring will be performed during the cleanup work and the soil stockpiled and covered pending testing and off-site disposal. In addition a 200-gallon partially buried storage tank will be removed.

Background:

The City of Buffalo acquired the property and associated buildings through a process known as "in-rem" for vacant properties and subsequently inspected and secured the Sweet Kleen buildings. The City of Buffalo and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) initially requested EPA's assistance in conducting this cleanup.

Founded in 1925, Sweet Kleen Laundry operated a commercial laundry operation on this 2-acre site until the early 1990's when they abandoned the facility.

If you have any questions concerning the site, please feel free to contact Mike Basile, Community Relations Coordinator at our Western New York Public Information office at (716) 551-4410. Information can also be obtained from EPA at their on-site project office.

EPA has created a web site on the internet. This web URL is www.epaossc.net/sweetkleen.